THE DAILY JOURNAL

MONDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1894.

WASHINGTON OFFICE-1410 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE Telephone Calls. Business Office......238 | Fditorial Rooms......242 TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION. DAILY BY MAIL Sunday only, one year..... 2.00 WHEN FURNISHED BY AGENTS. Daily and Sunday, per week, by carrier......20 cts WEEKLY. Reduced Rates to Clubs. Subscribe with any of our numerous agents or send subscriptions to the

JOURNAL NEWSPAPER COMPANY. Indianapolis, Ind.

Persons sending the Journal through the mails in the United States should put on an eight-pase paper a ONE-CENT postage stamp; on a twelve or sixteen-page paper a TWO-CENT postage stamp. Foreign postage is usually double these rates.

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THE INDIANAPOLIS JOURNAL

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The report of a State institution in which there was no request for money for some improvement would be a curi-

There must be no bank issues but national, and no national issues which have not a good dollar to redeem every dollar of notes.

Mr. Carlisle's currency plan owes its support in the House to an ignorance of safe banking methods and a blind support of party measures.

The various plans for an elastic currency only insure elasticity in one direction. They make ample provision for expansion, but there is no assurance of contraction.

As soon as the foes of national money discovered that the friends of sound money were against the administration's banking bill, they rallied about it on the double-quick.

If the A. R. U. was a living organization, the resignation of Vice President Howard would be greatly to his advantage, even if his having a pocketful of passes were made the pretext.

When Indiana's government becomes strictly one for the people, all its institutions will be so managed that one will not assume that the thrift and the luxury of the few are the single considera-

Judge McCray has adopted some regulations which will have the effect to remind those who attend the Criminal Court as a regular recreation that it is not a promiscuous assemblage, but a court of justice.

It is the opinion of the mugwump Springfield Republican that courts have no right to send men to prison for contempt. Still, the opinion of the Supreme Court will be regarded as more authoritative.

It is painful to note that President Gompers permitted himself to speak contemptuously of the decreasing labor organization of General Master Workman Sovereign, known as the Knights of Labor.

President Gompers opposed the moval of the headquarters of the Federation of Labor from New York city, but if it should be moved to Indianapolis, Mr. Gompers in six months would rejoice that he had been voted down.

Debs applying to the Federation of Labor to furnish him funds to pay his lawyers to carry his appeal to the Supreme Court on the ground that his conspiracy to paralyze the industries of the country and enhance the price of the necessaries of life was maintained in the interest of labor, would be impudence in any other person.

A paragraph in Sunday's paper relates that a girl left school on Friday. feeling unwell, but became so ill that she died on Saturday, and that the attending physician requested the coroner to make a post mortem examination. If there was no positive evidence of foul play, why should the coroner do anything of the kind?

Immediately after the completion of the recent bond issue, on Dec. 5, the gold reserve in the treasury was \$111,142,000. On Saturday at the close of business hours it was \$96,410,884, a decrease of \$14.731,116 in ten days. No matter what may cause the outflow of gold the fact indicates a very unsatisfactory condition of national finances.

An American iron company has captured a \$3,000,000 contract from the Russian government for supplying armor plate for two new battle ships against competing bids from the armor-plate manufacturers of England, France and Germany, including Krupp. The contract is the largest awarded by any European government in recent years, and the fact that it comes to the United States is a fine advertisement for American enterprise and skill.

Some time ago one Henry Zink was sentenced to two years in the southern prison for violating the United States postal laws. Last week, on the representation that he was about to die of consumption, the President pardoned him. One of the first things the man did after getting out of prison was to go to a newspaper office and boast that he was never in better health. His statement was published and some person sent a copy of the paper to the President. The consequence is a very mad man in the White House and a probability that Warden Patten will be called on for an explanation.

The House committee, by a vote of 9 to 8, has insisted on reporting the Carlisle bank scheme without delay. More than that, it has limited the debate to four days. All the Republicans and two Democrats, Tom L. Johnson and Mr. Ellis of Kentucky, voted against reporting the bill. Even Chairman Springer, who

he was opposed to any scheme which 'made State bank money possible, became the leader of the Carlisle forces. With Cox of Tennessee, Cobb of Missouri, Culberson of Texas, Black of Georgia, Colt of Alabama and Hall of Missouri, Springer of Illinois, Sperry of Connecticut and Mr. Cleveland's faithful ally from New York, Warner, he voted to report the bill to destroy national bank issues and practically substitute State bank notes. If these Southern men had not been convinced that the Carlisle bill was designed to destroy national bank circulation and national banking they would not have been in favor of it. It is, also, a most remarkable fact that every man who appeared before the committee opposed the Carlisle bill. Even Mr. St. John, the free-silver banker, denounced the measure. He told Mr. Springer that no national bank would issue notes under its provisions, that it would cause State bank issues, and would result in a panic such as had never been seen, yet Mr. Cleveland's friends in the North on the committee and the six Southern members eager for State bank notes, voted to report the bill and push it in defiance of the practical judgment of the coun-

AN UNWISE EMPEROR.

The action of the German Reichstag in refusing to grant permission to the public prosecutor to institute proceedings against the Socialist members for their recent refusal to cheer Emperor William may have very important results. To appreciate its significance and possible consequences one must remember what sort of man the Emperor is and what sort of government he is trying to establish in Germany. All his acts since he became Emperor have tended to show that he is of an arbitrary and imperious disposition, an extreme believer in the divine right of kings and in his personal right to the unquestioning obedience of his subjects to all his commands, no matter how whimsical. almost every public utterance that he has made he has virtually declared "I am the empire," and has insisted upon personal allegiance to him and support of his policies as the first duty of every German and the only salvation for the country. In short, he has shown himself to be entirely out of touch with the spirit of the age, which, in Germany as in all other countries, is demanding the restriction of the divine right of kings and an enlargement of the rights of the

The action of the Reichstag on Saturday is largely due to the Emperor's arbitrary temper and his fondness for repressive measures. At the beginning of the present session of the Reichstag, on the 5th inst., the President of the body, being about to retire from office, delivered a speech, at the end of which he called for three cheers for the Emperor. All the members responded and joined in the cheers except six Socialists, who became conspicuous by remaining seated. The President foolishly emphasized the incident by calling on them to rise, but they refused to do so. An angry altercation followed in which one of the Socialist leaders declared that, "We will never be compelled to cheer for one who recently told the recruits who were taking the service oath that, should circumstances arise, they would be ordered, against the will of the people, to shoot their own brothers, fathers and mothers." A wise ruler would have overlooked so trifling an incident and sought an early opportunity of showing that he was above harboring resentment for such a cause. But Emperor William could not pass over what he deemed a grave insult to his royal person. Three days later he caused to be introduced a bill authorizing the prosecution of the members who had refused to cheer him. The bill was introduced by his Chancellor, Prince Hohenlohe, and was understood to have emanated from the Emperor himself. The charge on which the offending members were to be prosecuted was that of "leze majesty," or high treason. The idea of making a refusal to cheer the Emperor the foundation for so grave a charge certainly could not occur to any but a most ill-regulated mind. There have been Czars of Russia and perhaps former Emperors of Germany who might have entertained such an idea, but they belonged to a past age and represented obsolete ideas.

The Emperor's bill was referred to a committee, which, instead of complying with his wish, made a report recommending that permission be not granted to the public prosecutor to take action against the Socialists, and the Reichstag adopted the report by a vote of 168 to 58. The vote is highly creditable to the Reichstag as an assertion of its dignity and constitutional rights, but will doubtless be highly offensive to the Emperor. By unwise action he has given importance to an insignificant incident and brought upon himself a rebuff which is all the more humiliating because it could have been so easily avoided. A wise ruler would take the hint and not only drop this controversy, but abandon other coercive and repressive measures, but that is not the Emperor's way. He is more likely to do something that will still further antagonize the Reichstag, irritate the people and set in motion influences that may culminate in revolution.

LABOR FEDERATION AND SOCIALISM. The proposition which the convention of the Federation of Labor defeated Saturday was as rank an avowal of socialism as has ever been presented to an organization for action. The proposition, as presented by Tommy Morgan's committee, was a demand for "the ownership by the people of all means of production and distribution." Another delegate, who was hostile to socialism, offered as an amendment the words, "by means of confiscation without compensation," his purpose being, as he explained, to lay bare the whole scheme of the socialistic coterie in the Federation. The amendment was promptly accepted by Mr. Morgan, so that the proposition voted on reads: "The ownership by the people of all the means of production and distribution by means of confiscation without compensation." Subsequently, a substitute was offered by the Typographical Union for the proposition of the Morgan committee, declaring for the abolition of the monopoly privilege of issuing money and favoring a system of direct issue to the people. This substitute was adopted by a vote of 1,219 year to 93 nays. After this the motion to adopt the political plat-

that he might assure the country that | 725 yeas to 1,172 nays. That is, the Federation of Labor rejects the proposition to make it a political organization upon the basis of populistic and socialistic heresies.

This decisive victory over the element which would commit the great labor organizations of the country to socialism and the heresies of cheap money and Henry Georgeism will undoubtedly be regarded with favor by the mass of its members, who are too practical and intelligent men to approve such propositions as the confiscation of all the productive property in the country. These are the theories of the foreign element, which seems to control the unions in Chicago and a few other cities. It is the element which has been fighting President Gompers, and has influenced hir to concede more to it than he should. The vote also defeats all the schemes to make the Federation a political party. This, however, is less important than the defeat of the Socialists in the organization, some of whom are so extreme in their views that they might be classed as Anarchists.

WAGES OF UNION AND NONUNION LABOR.

The current issue of the labor organ published in this city contains the following:

Where is that honor, that loyalty to principle that desire to tell the truth irrespective of who was made to suffer thereby, that has at various times been set forth by the Journal as a characteristic of the American press? A few weeks ago that able champion of the doctrine of "protection to Ameri-can industries" saw fit to stigmatize ex-pressions of delegates of the Glass Workers' Union, made before the Central Labor Union, in regard to the difference in the rate of wages paid union and nonunion workmen, as untruths, and said that it would so held until more tangible evidence was produced. The reason for this was plain: To accept the statement was to destroy their pet theory of the beneficial effect of protection to American workingmen, at least so far as the glass workers of the country are concerned. Since publishing its conclusions on the subject the Journal has been invited to send a special representative to investigate the matter and satisfy itself as to the truth or falsity of the claims. The Journal has not seen fit to do this, and it is needless to remark that it will not. has no desire to ascertain the truth the truth is in any wise going to disturb its

The article which provoked these illtempered remarks appeared in the Journal of Nov. 19, as follows:

At the last meeting of the Central Lebor Union of this city two delegates of the Flint Glass Workers' National Union who were present stated that out of ten flask factories in this State only two are union establishments, viz., one at Alexandria and the other at Anderson, and that the union men receive about 60 per cent. more wages than the nonunion men. seems incredible that two glass factories out of ten in the State should pay nearly 60 per cent. higher wages than the others and yet be able to compete with them in open markets, and it is also very strange that union men should be able to command so much higher wages than nonunion men doing the same line of work. If the state-ment is true, it furnishes a strong argument in favor of organized labor. If glass workers or any other class of workingmen can in crease their wages 60 per cent., or the half of it, by joining labor unions, they should lose no time in doing so. The Journal has no doubt that organization has benefited and does benefit labor in some essential respects, but it must take leave to doubt the correctness of the statement referred to.

From this it will be seen that the Journal did not "stigmatize" the statements made before the Central Labor Union as untruths, nor say that it should "so hold until more tangible evidence was produced." The doubt which it expressed as to the correctness of the statement referred to was not intended to question the veracity of the persons who made it, but the trustworthiness of their information. We still think the statement incredible, but if it is true it is an interesting fact, and the Journal would willingly publish confirmation of it from an authoritative source. If the proprietors or the employes of the factories referred to will unite in a statement over their own signatures that they have personal knowledge of the fact that the union workmen in two of these factories receive 60 per cent. higher wages than do the nonunion workmen in the other eight factories, the Journal will accept it as conclusive of the truth of the statement and will admit that it furnishes a very strong argument in favor of organized labor. The Journal is a friend of honest labor, whether union or nonunion, and it believes that labor has been materially benefited by organization, but in the absence of proof it must take leave to doubt that union men in any line of work command or receive 60 per cent., or anything like that per cent., higher wages than nonunion workmen in the same line. It is not the business of the Journal to "send a special representa tive to investigate the matter;" it is the business of those who make the statement to prove it, and not to garble the Journal's statements and misrepresent its position.

WHY GOLD GOES TO EUROPE.

Why did over \$5,000,000 of gold leave the country Saturday? There was never so much gold in Europe seeking safe investment. Therefore, it cannot be attributed to money scarcity in Europe. Until the beginning of this month the export of gold was but nominal. For months, however, the very large balance of trade in our favor has brought us no gold. This is explained by showing that large quantities of American securities are coming home. Now the merchandise balance is no longer sufficient to pay for the increasing volume of bonds and stocks coming home, so gold is drawn from the treasury and the banks to supplement merchandise. Foreign capital has been going out of the country ever since the Democratic tariff policy was taken up by Congress. Now this movement of money has been given a fresh impulse by the Cleveland-Carlisle bank scheme. The certainty that the controlling element of Democratic party in the House will attempt to pass the Carlisle bill has given foreign capital an additional scare. The shipment of \$5,000,000 of gold Saturday is the result of it. Should there be any real prospect of the passage of such a law as that proposed by the President and his Secretary of the Treasury, more foreign capital employed here during the prosperous season following the passage of the McKinley law will seek safety

The Baltimore currency plan now appears to have been a great mistake, as most of the bankers who were led to indorse it must now see, because it involved a scheme to issue notes without any substantial security behind them. If the authors of the Carlisle scheme could be credited with the astuteness such a transaction would call for, it might be suspected that they were behind the Baltimore plan of issuing bank notes without full security in the hands of the government, to the end that their project of State bank issues might have so reputable a godfather as the National

the Baltimore plan the Carlisle scheme has been developed, and it is a scheme for State bank issues which would drive out the circulation of national banks. The Carlisle scheme means forty-odd different kinds of State money. The managers of foreign capital, always easily frightened, fear this, and, fearing it, they are sending that capital home at the rate of a dozen millions of gold

A New Hampshire paper calls upon the Legislature of that State to either repeal or amend the Australian ballot law as being "one of the most cumbersome, cruel, corrupting, hateful and abominable contrivances which cranks and cowards have ever put into the statutes." The Australian ballot law must have operated very differently in New Hampshire from what it has in this State to justify this violent denunciation, or, indeed, any denunciation at all. In the main the law has operated well in this State, and no person would think of going back to the old system. Many persons think it could be improved and should be amended in some particulars, but that any change should be with the proviso that its main features should not be interfered with. The objection most frequently made is to the cost of elections under the law. The Logansport Journal of Saturday says the total cost of the last election in Cass county was \$4,476.47, and thinks that "considering this large cost, some amendments for a cheaper method that would serve the purpose equally as well should be sought." No expense is too great that is necessary to secure fair and honest elections, and the present law should not be changed in any vital part for the purpose of reducing expenses, but if they can be reduced without impairing the efficiency of the law it should be done.

The decision of the Appellate Court to the effect that a saloon keeper was responsible in damages for the drowning of a young man who fell off a bridge on his way home from the saloon, which he left in a maudlin condition, seems a very important one, even if it did not attract attention when announced. As a precedent, it adds a new responsibility to those who send men from their saloons under the influence of drink.

THE DEBS SENTENCE.

It may be a little hard on Debs, but it s not as hard as it might be. He might have received his deserts.-Kansas City It is well to have it judicially determined

that the public has some rights which strikers are bound to respect. Now, if the same thing can be held and sustained as to trusts and corporations the public will be glad.—New York World. The six months Debs will spend in prison

and the shorter period of confinement imposed upon his associates will be quite long enough to convince them and those of their way of thinking that lawlessness s neither safe nor profitable.-Philadelphia

It is a matter of great moment that is should be established that there is adequate authority to protect the public from lawless combinations to interrupt the railroad traffic of the country as a means of forcing redress of alleged private griev-ances, and that such authority will be fully sustained.—New York Times.

The sentence of Debs and his coconspirators, though light, cannot fail to have a salutary effect. The punishment is for the contempt, for the disobedience to the order of the court, and not for the crime, which is still open to consideration by grand and petit juries under the ordinary criminal procedure.—Philadelphia Press.

The decision seems to be a sound one from a legal as well as an equitable point of view. It would be an absurdity, a singular state of affairs, if the United States government and its courts are so powerless that they can do nothing to defend the interstate commerce and the mails from Debses and Howards.—Cincinnati Tribune. Mr. Eugene V. Debs despised the court and the court has smitten Mr. Debs. If would have been still better if the court could have compelled him for the rest of his stay on earth to use the labor of his hands and brains twelve hours a day in support of families whose heads he per-suaded into lawless courses last summer. -St. Louis Republic

The decision, though temperate in many respects, seems to place upon labor leaders a responsibility which, justly or not would virtually tie their hands from the use of the strike by holding them accountable for whatever might happen incidental to the strike, and assuming that such happenings were part of their intention and desire.-Chicago Record. Considering the wide devastation for

which this man was responsible, the dis turbance he brought to the business of the country, the ruin he wrought, the cruelties practiced in his name and under his orders, and the untold miseries inflicted upon innolust for notoriety and power-the penalty he pays seems trifling and inadequate.-New

Much as justice requires some punishment for Debs, and loud as may be the cry of the sixty-seven deaths the strike caused, his personal importance is small compared with the necessity of keeping the law su-preme. Whether Debs is imprisoned six days or six months makes little difference, so long as the principle of protection and authority is given a better and stronger significance.—Baltimore American.

They (Debs and his assistants) antagonized the interests of the public, invaded the rights of the railroads, and put life and property in peril. Such things cannot be done in the name of organized labor. any more than by individuals acting as ordinary lawbreakers, without judicial conlemnation and punishment; and it is to be hoped that this and similar decisions t that effect will put a stop to strikes of the violent sort, and teach labor leaders like Debs a lesson that they will not forget.-St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

ABOUT PEOPLE AND THINGS.

A Southern California editor is being boycotted by some of his readers because he publishes the mean temperature of the W. S. Gilbert, Sir Arthur Sullivan's fa-

music collabortor, has so little ear for music hat he cannot distinguish harmony from

Francis Bacon was plain in his eating tastes. Splendid banquets were provided for his guests, while he himself ate of one or two simple dishes.

Vitellius, the Roman Emperor, was the most noted glutton of his time. He would eat all he could possibly hold, then take an emetic and begin over again. Bishop John F. Hurst, of Washington, D. C., has been elected a member of the Washington National Monument Association to succeed the late Hon. Robert Winthrop, of Massachusetts.

Colonel Stairs, a bachelor of forty, and ditor of a Populist newspaper at Dover. Ky., called the Searchlight, was recently married to a widow of seventy-three, who is the owner of an estate worth not less Julius Caesar, when at home, lived as

Romans; when in camp on the plainest fare, and not much of that. Pliny says that if Caesar overate he fell into a lethargy reembling a fainting fit. Natural gas has been discovered in Oklahoma, and exactly four hours after the first well was struck, a company was

luxuricusly as other wealthy and noble

formed and capitalized at \$500,000. stock jumped to par by night, and in the morning it was selling fifteen above. By night the well had ceased flowing. French Deputies are no better than other A story is told of a country clergyman

whose finances do not apparently extend to banking operations and experience. Going to a bank with a check, the clerk hand-

After much deliberation the reverend gentleman came to the conclusion that he could, without violation of his conscience, accede to the request. So he took the treas-ured piece of paper and wrote across the back of it: "I heartily indorse this check." representatives. The library of the Palais Bourbon contains 150,000 volumes, but the historical and political are never opened, while there is a constant demand for the works of the elder Dumas, Flaubert, Daudet, Zola, and even for Ponson du Terrall's

long stories. Winfield S. Kerr, who will succeed Mr. Harter, of Mansfield, Ohio, district, was a poor young fellow working as a brakeman on a railroad, when he lost one arm in an accident. That decided him to embark in the study of law, and he has built up a large lucrative practice. It was a curious coincidence that his defeated Democratic competitor had only one arm.

A woman who has tried to live abroad in "refinement and strict economy," epitomizes as follows: "In Italy, well, there are many family who take pensionnaires, but comfort is not always great there. England, without a shadow of doubt, provides the best comfort all around, the best table with the most wholesome food, and the most refined style of living. After this comes Germany, with a bountiful table; France, with a more delicate one, perhaps, and Switzerland, with a combination of the

Rubinstein was fond of whist, although he seldom won a game. He played whist on the last evening of his life, and, although his asthma had been for several days troubling him more than usual, he was in good spirits when he went to bed. At half-past 1 o'clock in the morning an agonized cry was was heard in his room-"A doctor! I cannot breathe; I want air!" His wife hastened to his room, and a doctor was sent for immediately, but was too late to render him any assistance. He expired at 2 o'clock, of heart disease, in the arms of his wife and his son-in-law Rebesof, without speaking another word.

> Now I lay me down to sleep; I pray the Lord my soul to keep, And if the bed shuts up on me I pray the Lord to set me free. -Cincinnati Tribune.

The future has a golden tinge, The past, too, may seem pleasant; But just about the Christmas tide There's nothing like the present.

The best is yet to be. The last of life, for which the first was Our times are in His hand Who saith, "A whole I planned, Youth shows but half; trust God; see all, nor be afraid!"

BUBBLES IN THE AIR.

He Will Attend to That. "Do you want a self-inking press?" asked the dealer.

"Oh, I guess not," said Mr. Figg. "He'll ink himself fast enough. At least, I did when I was a boy and owned one."

From Abstract to Concrete. "Mr. Billings," said the landlady, playfully, "which do you think came first-the

chicken or the egg?" "I never gave the subject much thought, Mrs. Hashcroft," answered Billings, "but I am willing to bet that if any chicken preceded this egg it died long ago, long

The Society Paper.

"Running a society paper, are you, Bliggins? Well, that ought to pay. There are lots of people who want to see their names in print."

"I don't mind telling you, old man, that I make the most of my money off people who don't want to see their names in

His Theory. Teacher-Tommy, when was money originated?

Tommy-I guess it come in with the "With the churches?"

"Yes'm. How could they have church if there wasn't any money to take up collections with?"

ABOUT POLL TAXES.

Can the State Afford to Make Their Payment a Condition of Suffrage?

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: A day or so ago, in looking over the files of the Journal, I noticed under date of Dec. 3, a reply to my article on poll taxes. The reply escaped my observation at the time of its publication. Your correspondent admits the correctness of my argument, but arrives at a different conclusion for the reason that he believes every one should contribute to the support of the government. In theory this is right. But in practice it results, as I have pointed out, and as your correspondent admits, in unequal taxation, because the majority of persons who have no tangible property out of which poll tax may be collected, do not pay it. The only scheme yet devised for enforcing payment of poll taxes is the one suggested by your correspondent requiring the voter to produce his receipt for poll taxes before he is allowed to vote. This is the law in some of the Southern States. But, in my opinion, it is the worst system that could be devised for the purpose of collecting a tax. It is the open and direct road to political corruption. It is one of the means distranchisement of the negro, a means more potent, indeed, than the ern methods of counting the ballots after they are cast. A friend of mine once stated to me that in one of these States he had seen candidates standing at the polls with their hands full of tax receipts which they were handing out to all that wished to vote their sentiments. Are men who do not feel able to pay their poll taxes and who are too honest to allow others to pay it for them, to be deprived of the right of suffrage on that account? Are they to denied a voice in making the laws by which they are governed simply because they are poor? Your correspondent states that an examination of the tax duplicate of Marion county shows that in one year fifteen thousand persons did not pay a cent of taxes. Would it be right to pass a law practically disfranchising these men? Or ould it not be better to enact a law releasing them from the obligation? We are proud of this great country. We believe it s the best country on the face of the earth. And I, as a native Hoosler, believe that Indiana is the best State in the Union guarantee to every man life, liberty the pursuit of happiness. These, like salvation, are of such inestimable value that they cannot be purchased, but are given to all without money and without price. I do not believe the great State of Indiana can afford to exact tribute for the privilege of a voice in making her laws. If we give let us give graciously.

Marion, Ind., Dec. 15. WM. E. HEAL. The City and the Railways.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: "The city and its railways" is a subject yet for discussion by the citizens of Indianapolis. I was interested in reading Mr. Moore's plan and also a letter on the subject printed on Friday-one a criticism of the other. We must look at things as they exist, and deal with problems in their true light. We cannot do without railways, and there is no doubt they have been a great means of making Indianapolis what she now is, and I wish to call your attention to the fact that the population of Indianapolis has increased 100,000 in thirty-four years, and at the present rate of increase we shall have a population of 250,000 twenty-five years hence. The ratio of increase may be greatly increased before the twentyfive years expire. The questions involved in the subject are: First, Where shall the future increased population reside? Second, centralization of business facilities, etc., tends to make a city prosperous. Third. Fencing in railroads decreases danger to the public. Fourth, Shall we depress or elevate our streets? First question-It is a fact that the cen-

tral part of all large cities is the business part of town, and as a city grows that portion grows and keeps encroaching on the residence property until we are compelled to move further out or into flats, such as Messrs. Wallace and New have erected. Then we need all the space inside the Belt railroad for residence property except that the bill. Even Chairman Springer, who the motion to adopt the political plat- so reputable a godiather as the National ed it back with a request that he would l occupied by the central business portion,

have to be solved with regard to the Belt railroad that is now facing us with regard to the individual tracks centering at the Union Station and crossing north-and-south streets. This condition will be reached in

about twenty-five years or less. Second-Centralization of business facilities, etc., tends to the prosperity of a city, and, looking to the future growth of our city, have we any more railroad facilities in the center of town than we need? I will say nay; and the closer they can get to the business portion the better it is for all concerned. Centralization of business facilities is the soul of business, whether in the hape of railroads, fuel or raw material, and it will not be a great while before our manufacturers will have down-town offices and warehouses and factories moved out to the Belt railroad or beyond, and the coal and lumber yards, etc., not immediately in the center of the city will move furth-

er out, as the ground will become more val-

To move the Union Station to one side f the city would be rough on the citizens living on the opposite side of the city. Centralization means expediency and economy to all citizens. We must not forget that ndianapolis sends out over Indiana and other States some 250 traveling men, and that Indianapolis as a city is recognized as a strong commercial competitor by much larger cities, and that facilities for immediate shipping are of vital importance, when competition is keen, and could not be done if freight stations were moved out. It would not be fair treatment to our patrons to have them get off a train and find they are two miles from their destination and have to ride the distance in a street car. The cry now is that customers have not enough time to do their business in Indianapolis and return the same day on account of the late arrival of loc. passenger trains patronized by out-of-city merchants who make one-day trips. Railroad companies and merchants are on the alert to centralize their business facilities to make their business profitable, and is it not of the utmost importance to the public generally that they should do so? If one part of a business is compelled to re-locate, it is common sense to suppose in time all the parts will be united to save expense. Third-The safest way to protect the pub-

ic from railroad accidents is to fence in the railroads. This statement, on the face of it, may seem absurd, but it is nevertheless a fact. Then the question arises, how can we fence in the railroads? By either elevating the streets or tracks and freight yards. The latter would be, to say the least, very inconvenient, and would cost the rail-road companies \$10,000,000, which would increase terminal expenses \$600,000 per annum. This money would come out of the public pocket. But the proposition is to elevate only the tracks used by passenger trains, which only partially overcomes the evil ought to be remedied, reducing the liability of accident to traffic crossing rail-road tracks. The public would be almost as much exposed as before, due to freight trains switching. The natural solution is to build vieducts, and after the first six are constructed, which would cost \$1,200,000, one viaduct every four years would meet the growing demands of the city. I will venture to say that the Virginia-avenue viaduct has amply compensated the public for its cost to the railroad companies. The question of viaducts brings us to the fourth question-shall we depress or elevate our streets? I am in favor of elevating streets instead of railroads. Indianapolis is built on flat ground, comparatively speaking, and has been subject to overflow from Pogue's run and other streams at a large number of places in the vicinity of raffroad racks. Then it seems natural we should lift ourselves out of water and mud, and far preferable to cross over than under tracks by means of viaducts, which would also practically allow railroads to be fenced in. I think the property along the Virginiaavenue viaduct is worth much more now than it was before the viaduct was built, and it would have improved more property if the street grade from the highest point in the viaduct had been carried out uniformly to Washington street and allowed Maryland street to have gone under by means of a tunnel or over by inclines. Indianapolis, Dec. 15.

A Voice from the Boys' Club.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal: Please allow a mother's heart to appeal to the good people of this city through your paper in behalf of the Boy's Club work, one of the most important of charlties, because it has to do with the street boys who are to become the citizens of our city's future. For more than a year the work has been prosecuted through the untiring, practical efforts of Miss Mary E. Dixon, who has had experience in free kindergartens and personal work with street boys. The work has increased marvelously and reached such proportions as to require an assistant. Mr. S. P. Dixon has been secured and is already proving an efficient helper. The average attendance has increased from twenty-five to eighty. The association reaches the boys without a home, and those who have some kind of a home, but who are on the streets selling papers or shining boots, hence exposed to temptations without number. They are organized into a club with a clubroom at 64 Court street, to which, recently, an inexpensive gymnasium has been added. By the payment of the small fee of 10 cents a month each boy becomes a member of a society in which he is directly interested, and Miss Dixon endeavors to arouse in them a spirit of self-respect and manhood. In her they have a protector and friend-some one to love them, care for them, some one to love them, care for them, help them, some one to seek them out from any vicious surrounding; some one to and employment for them; and at present there are several who are anxious for places. She also works in their homes to secure the co-operation of their mothers or guardians in this uplitting of young and impressionable lives. To look in upon the eighty, ninety and often one hundred boys who gather at the clubrooms in the even-ing one can realize the possibilities for good or evil that are bound up in those stirring youths, and you who have aided financially in this grand work may well feel that your investment is bringing, even now, rich re-

One evening each week is devoted military drill by those boys organized into a boys' brigade. This part of the work has en slow, as there are only thirty guns, and fifteen more boys than guns, so they are obliged to take turns in drilling. Two evenings each week are set apart for lessons in reading, spelling, writing, etc., to which has just been added drawing, through the kindness of Prof. Olds, of the Indian-apolis Art Union. A Sunday school is held each Sunday afternoon, and a social evening for the boys and parents has been given occasionally. This ought to occur oftener, is there are so many outside attractions. The Dime Museum and Empire Theater get the evenings of a great many boys. The clubrooms are open each afternoon for boys to come for individual instruction, reading and games. At this time as well as in the evening all friends are invited to the room. We earnestly trust that all who have not responded to letters sent them with regard to this work, and those who read this article to learn of it for the first time, will feel impelled to come to the help of the board with open purses now. when sympathy in a material way is great-ly needed, either by a generous donation of money or a monthly pledge. If by God's help we can lay one straw in the way sin and thus prevent crime, is it not our duty as citizens of this great city so to Will not your own Christmas joys be more precious and the echoes of the Christells far sweeter if the thought of the Christ child prompts you to share your own children's gifts with "some other mother's boys" less fortunate than your own? All who will thus gladly respond may send to the chairman of the finance committee, M. E. Crowell, 339 North Pennsylvania street. A FRIEND OF THE BOYS. Indianapolis, Dec. 14.

Let Well Enough Alone.

Several important laws have been put on the statute books of Indiana by Democratic legislatures within the past few years. Prominent among these are the election law, the tax law and the school-book law, While these laws may not be perfect in every detail, they are very satisfactory to the people, and the incoming Legislature will, if it wise, not seriously molest them. Because they were enacted by Democratic legislatures it will not do for the Republicans to repeal them, unless they can put something better in their place. The election law is especially satisfactory to the people, and should be modified in no particular, only as its provisions may be simolified and the expense of its operation reduced, without in any way endangering the secrecy and purity of the ballot.

A Warning. Kansas City Journal.

The silver men in the Senate will make a serious mistake if they permit Voorhees to assume the leadership of the silver Thousands of bimetallists in the West have so little respect for the Hoosier demagogue that they would almost rather sacrifice their principles than march under

How to Make the Bunk Secure.

Chicago Tribune. Speaking of Seeley, the embezzler: If he wasn't worth more than So a week to the Hide and Leather Bank, after fourteen years' service as a trusted employe, officers of the bank should have cut his salary down to \$30 and hired a cheap map